

ANACONDA Minerals Company  
New Mexico Operations  
P.O. Box 610  
Grants, New Mexico 87020  
Telephone 505 878 2211



December 1, 1982

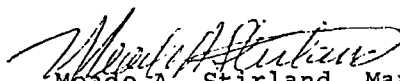
Mr. Marc Nelson  
Minerals Management Service  
South Central Region  
505 Marquette Avenue, N.W., Suite 815  
Albuquerque, New Mexico 87102

Dear Marc:

Attached is our response to Question #10 of your letter to Bill Gray dated 20 April 1982 wherein you asked for additional information regarding Anaconda's Jackpile-Paguate Mine Reclamation Plan. This attachment includes four copies of the report of our consultant addressing seismic effects of blasting on the Village of Paguate.

Please contact me if you have any questions regarding this response.

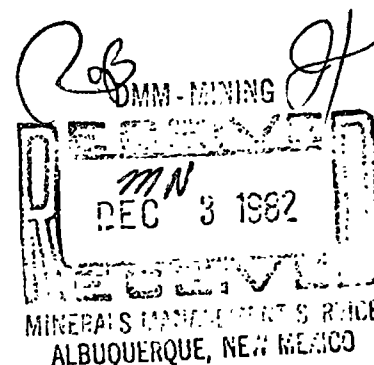
Sincerely,

  
Meade A. Stirland, Manager  
Environment, Health & Safety

mls

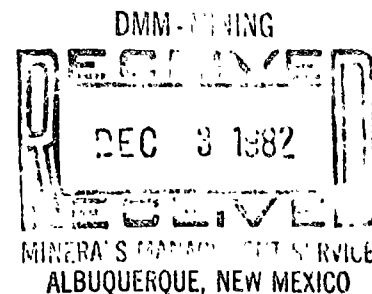
Enclosures

cc: Governor Early w/encs. - 2



CONFIDENTIAL

POL-EPA01-0007537



QUESTION #10

Please provide a report on the amount of damage that has been caused to the homes in Paguate by blasting at the mine. The report should also address the repairs that have been and will be made to these homes.

RESPONSE #10

We have recently completed analyses of our seismographic records of blasts during our mining operations in the vicinity of Paguate Village from 1961-1982, and a study of blast effects on structures. These analyses and the study confirm that there is no basis for damage (and no damage) to the homes in Paguate Village from our mine blasting activities.

During the 1961-1982 period, the Company has spent in excess of \$1.6 million on activities associated with the Paguate Village. The expenditures consist of:

1. House repair and improvements (1963-1982)

Labor	\$1,106,375.52
Materials	<u>198,310.66</u>
	\$1,304,686.18

This cost does not include the cost of materials supplied by Village housing occupants that were used in housing improvements during the years 1968-1982, but does include labor costs for installing such materials. The cost of these materials (not an Anaconda cost) is at least \$51,000 and may be 3 to 4 times this amount.

2. Village road improvements (1974-1975)

\$224,263.47

3. Seismograph operation (1961-1982)

\$88,657.11

Although Anaconda has, at times, carried some of this work on the books as alleged blast damage, and the residents of Paguate have experienced secondary sound effects associated with blasting, there is no evidence of bonafide blast damage to any building or structure in Paguate Village resulting from our operation, and that work conducted by Anaconda was for purposes of maintenance, improvements and for causes other than our blasting. The work done by Anaconda in the village was conducted in the sense of public relations and assistance to the Laguna people in association with our presence at the Jackpile-Paguate Mine.

RESPONSE #10 (Continued)

Because of cessation of our mining operation in the vicinity of Paguete Village, and considering the findings of our review, analyses and study, Anaconda proposes no further repair, maintenance or improvement work at the Paguete Village.

The study by Lewis L. Oriard, Inc., Report of Investigations, Seismic Effects of Blasting Operations of Anaconda Minerals Company on the Village of Paguete, New Mexico, 12 August 1982, is attached.

mls